

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-11, 14, 15, 17-26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, and 41-47 have been examined.

Claims 1-3, 8-11, 14, 15, 17-20, 25, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, and 41-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b), and claims 4-7 and 21-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

**I. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) over U.S. Patent No. 5,930,367 to Osawa et al. (“Osawa”)**

Claims 1-3, 8-11, 14, 15, 17-20, 25, 26, 29, 30, 32, 33, 35, 36, 38, 39, and 41-47 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b).<sup>1</sup> Applicants submit that the claims are patentable over the reference.

**A. Claim 1**

For example, claim 1 states that recording information generated as a unit of error correction and that a substituting device substitutes part of the recording information with generated substitute information. Also, the substituting device has a function of changing a substitution position, at which the part of the recording information is substituted with the generated substitute information, in the unit of the error correction.

The Examiner contends that column 4, lines 47-54, and column 12, lines 16-21, of Osawa disclose a substituting device that substitutes part of the recording information with generated substitute information. However, the cited portions of the reference (as well as the remaining

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<sup>1</sup> Applicants note that claims 29 and 30 are not listed in the Examiner’s statement of the rejection. However, since the claims are discussed in the body of the rejection, Applicants assume that the Examiner intended to reject them over Osawa.

portions) do not suggest changing a substitution position, at which part of the recording information is substituted with the generated substitute information. Accordingly, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable.

**B. Claims 2, 3, and 8-11**

Since claims 2, 3, and 8-11 depend upon claim 1, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**C. Claim 14**

Since claim 14 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 14 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**D. Claim 15**

Since claim 15 depends upon claim 14, Applicants submit that it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

**E. Claim 17**

Since claim 17 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 17 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**F. Claims 18-20, 25, and 26**

Since claims 18-20, 25, and 26 depend upon claim 17, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**G. Claim 29**

Since claim 29 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 29 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**H. Claim 30**

Since claim 30 depends upon claim 29, Applicants submit that it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

**I. Claim 32**

Since claim 32 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 32 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**J. Claim 33**

Since claim 33 depends upon claim 32, Applicants submit that it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

**K. Claim 35**

Since claim 35 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 35 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**L. Claim 36**

Since claim 36 depends upon claim 35, Applicants submit that it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

**M. Claim 38**

Since claim 38 contains features that are analogous to the features recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 38 is patentable for analogous reasons.

**N. Claim 39**

Since claim 39 depends upon claim 38, Applicants submit that it is patentable at least by virtue of its dependency.

**O. Claims 41-47**

Since claims 41-47 depend upon claim 1, 14, 17, 29, 32, 35, or 38, Applicants submit that they are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**II. Rejection under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over Osawa and U.S. Patent No. 4,757,534 to Matyas et al. (“Matyas”)**

Claims 4-7 and 21-24 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Osawa and Matyas. Since claims 4-7 and 21-24 depend upon claim 1 or 17, and since Matyas does not cure the deficient teachings of Osawa with respect to claims 1 and 17, Applicants submit that the claims are patentable at least by virtue of their dependency.

**III. Conclusion**

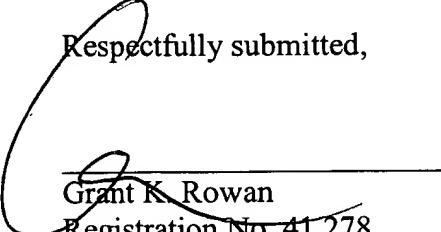
In view of the above, reconsideration and allowance of this application are now believed to be in order, and such actions are hereby solicited. If any points remain in issue which the Examiner feels may be best resolved through a personal or telephone interview, the Examiner is kindly requested to contact the undersigned at the telephone number listed below.

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 (c)  
U.S. Patent Application No. 09/838,206

Attorney docket No. Q64192

The USPTO is directed and authorized to charge all required fees, except for the Issue Fee and the Publication Fee, to Deposit Account No. 19-4880. Please also credit any overpayments to said Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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